

30¢
#11

MARVEL® COMICS GROUP

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PETER PARKER THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN



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TM

**MEDUSA!
NO! YOU CAN'T
ATTACK ME
NOW!**



SPIDEY BATTLES THE MOST
UNCANNY INHUMAN FOR THE
HIGHEST STAKE OF ALL!

A LIFE TOO FAR!

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While attending a demonstration in radiology, student PETER PARKER was bitten by a spider which had accidentally been exposed to RADIOACTIVE RAYS. Through a miracle of science, Peter soon found that he had GAINED the arachnid's powers...and had, in effect, become a human spider...

Stan Lee PRESENTS: **THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN!**

A LIFE TOO FAR

5:00 PM--MANHATTAN--
SOUTH MEDICAL CENTER--
OPERATING ROOM ONE...

SCALPEL...
HEMOSTAT... STAT...
STAT... SPONGE...
NUMBER ONE
FORCEPS--NO, AH,
MAKE IT NUMBER
THREE.

LOOK AT
THIS MESS.
WILL YA? WHAT'D
THE KID DO,
ANYWAY. TAKE A
MIX/MASTER TO
HIS INSIDES?

REPORT SAYS
WE WENT THROUGH
A TRUCK WINDSHIELD.
I'D SAY WE HAVE ABOUT
A BILLION LOVELY
LITTLE PIECES OF
GLASS SCATTERED
LIKE SHRAPNEL
THROUGH HIS
ABDOMEN.

AND EVERY
LAST ONE OF 'EM'S
GOT TO COME
OUT.

CHRIS CLAREMONT
GUEST WRITER

JIM MOONEY
PENCILER

MIKE ESPRITO
INKER

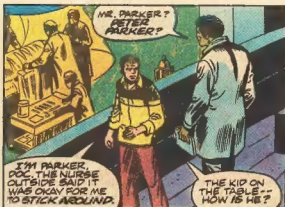
PATTERSON-LITTERER
T.S. CHU - COLORIST

ARCHIE GOODWIN
EDITOR

I TRUST NONE
OF YOU FINE PEOPLE
HAVE ANY PLANS FOR
THIS EVENING...

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The Devastator scan



MR. PARKER?
PETER
PARKER?

I'M PARKER,
DOC. THE NURSE
OUTSIDE SAID IT
WAS OKAY FOR ME
TO STICK AROUND.

THE KID ON
THE TABLE--
HOW IS HE?



NOT GOOD. I'M
AFRAID, ON TOP
OF HIS INJURIES,
HIS SYSTEM
ABSORBED A
DEADLY CHEMICAL
TOXIN.

LUCKILY,
THOUGH THERE'S
AN ANTIDOTE.



"YOU SOUND VERY CONCERNED,
MR. PARKER. DO YOU KNOW
THE BOY WELL?"

I DON'T
KNOW HIM AT
ALL, NOT EVEN
HIS NAME.

BUT MY
GIRL FRIEND
AND I OWE HIM
OUR LIVES.

LOOK
OUT!

WHAT
THE--?

PETEY-- THAT
TRUCK!!



I... SEE. NO WONDER THEY
BENT THE RULES A LITTLE
AND LET YOU STAY.

BRINING!

EXCUSE ME.
THAT'S THE LINE
TO THE O.R.



DR. TREVON, HOW'S
THE BOY?

STABLE
ON THE
TABLE,
FREDDY.
WHERE'S THE
ANTIDOTE?

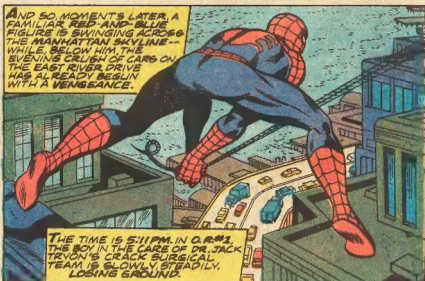
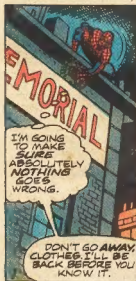
THE ONLY SUPPLY
IS AT DOWNSTATE
MEDICAL IN
BROOKLYN. THEY'RE
PROCESSING A
SHIPMENT NOW.

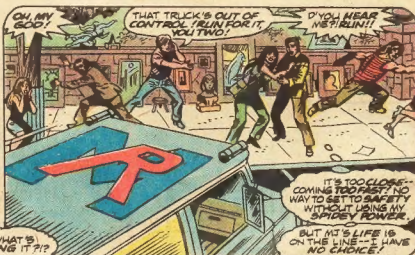
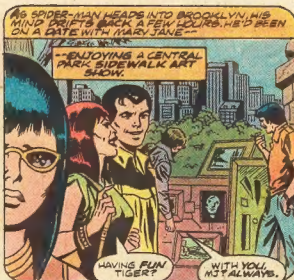


EVEN THROUGH RUSH HOUR
TRAFFIC THE AMBULANCE
SHOULD BE HERE WITH
TIME TO SPARE.

AH,
MR. PARKER
I HAVE A FEW
MORE
QUESTIONS--

MR. PARKER?







THIS THING'S BARRELING STRAIGHT DOWN THE SIDE-WALK TOWARD THE ART SHOW CROWD!

IF I CAN'T STOP IT, OR TURN IT--



--THERE'S GONNA BE A MASSACRE!



I DID IT! I MISSED THE CROWD--

OH, NO!!

KRASH!

THE TRUCK HIT HARD, THE IMPACT SMASHING THE BOY AGAINST THE WINDSHIELD.



THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN BAD ENOUGH, BUT THE CRASH SHIFTED THE POORLY-PAKED CARGO AS WELL.

SOME CANNISTERS EXPLODED SHATTERING THE PARTITION BEHIND THE CAB, ENVELOPING THE BOY IN A CLOUD OF GLASS SHARDS AND TOXIC CHEMICALS.



HE WAS UNCONSCIOUS WHEN PETER GOT TO HIM.

DON'T WORRY, FELLA. I'VE GOT YOU. YOU'RE GONNA BE ALL RIGHT.

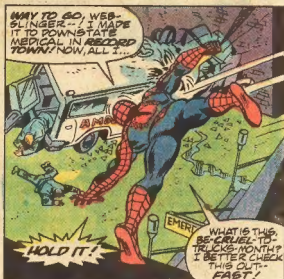
I HOPE THE KID'S PRETTY BADLY CUT. THE DRIVER LOOKS LIKE HE'S HAD IT, POOR GUY.

BETTER MAKE TRACKS--PRONTO! THE TRUCK'S BURNING AND THERE'S GAS ALL OVER THE PLACE.



INDEED, JUST AS PETER PULLED THE BOY CLEAR, THE FIRE REACHED THE RUPTURED GAS TANK AND...

THE POLICE TOOK MY HOME, PETER FOLLOWED THE INJURED BOY TO THE HOSPITAL...

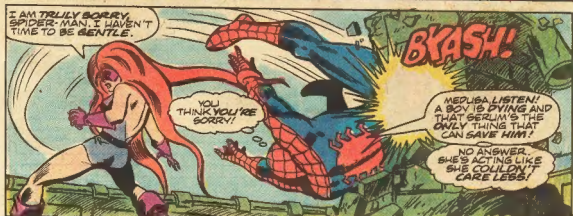


WAY TO GO, WEB-SLINGER--I MADE IT TO DOWNTOWN MEDICAL IN RECORD TIME! NOW, ALL I...

HOLD IT!

WHAT IS THIS, BEING HELD TO TRUCKS MONTH? I BETTER CHECK THIS OUT--FAST!





**MOVE OVER
TOMMY!
WATCH OUT
ELTON!**

**MAKE
WAY FOR--**

SUPERHERO PINBALL!

HERE'S THE SUPERHERO GAME YOU'VE ALL BEEN WAITING FOR-- PINBALL! LIKE YOU ALWAYS WANTED IT TO BE-- WITH YOUR FAVORITE SUPERHEROES! INSIDE THE STURDY HOUSING ARE FLIPPERS, LEVERS AND MARBLES JUST LIKE THEIR BIG BROTHERS! GET ONE, TWO OR ALL THREE AND PLAY PINBALL THE WAY IT WAS MEANT TO BE!

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59¢ POSTAGE & HANDLING!

CHOOSE FROM:
CAPTAIN AMERICA!
SPIDER-MAN! OR
THE BIG, BAD AND
BEAUTIFUL **HULK!**

AND THE NEXT TIME SOMEBODY TELLS YOU TO GO FLY A KITE, (NO DON'T PUNCH HIS FACE AWAY!) ANSWER HIM POLITELY WITH A

SKY-HERO!

EACH SKY HERO COMES WITH ITS OWN LAUNCHER-- THEY ZOOM AS HIGH AS 35 FEET-- AND THEN, WATCH THEIR WINGS OPEN UP AS THEY FLY, SWOOP, GLIDE, TURN, LOOP AND DIVE LIKE NOTHING YOU'VE EVER SEEN BEFORE! AVAILABLE IN SPIDER-MAN (SHOWN), CAPTAIN AMERICA, BATMAN AND SUPERMAN!



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NUFF SAID!

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LAUNCHER

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EACH-- PLUS
49¢ POSTAGE
& HAND.



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DOUBLE 'NUFF SAID!

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OUR GUARANTEE-- IF YOU ARE NOT FULLY SATISFIED THE MERCHANDISE MAY BE RETURNED FOR A FULL REFUND.

I'M A TRUE BELIEVER-- AND TO PROVE IT, HERE'S \$_____ FOR THE FOLLOWING--
CHARGE MY ☐ BANK AMERICARD ☐ MASTERCARD
ACCOUNT # _____ EXPIR. DATE _____
SUPERHERO PINBALL GAMES \$4.28 EACH*
☐ SPIDER-MAN ☐ HULK ☐ CAPTAIN AMERICA
SKY HEROES \$3.47 EACH* YOUR CHOICE
SUPERHERO DOLLS \$4.68* EACH / LIST YOUR CHOICE(S)

NAME _____ AGE _____

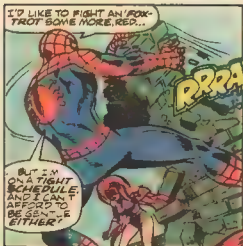
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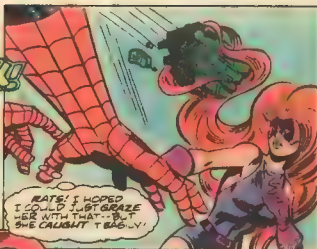
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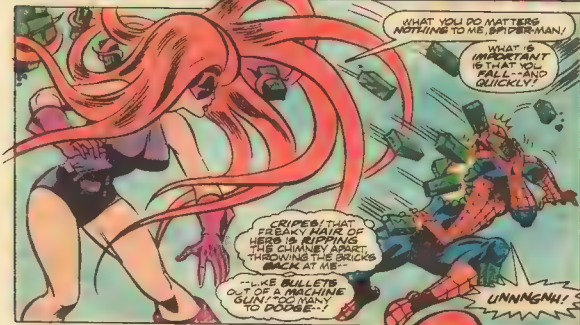
I'D LIKE TO FIGHT AN' FOX-TROT SOME MORE, RED...

BUT I'M ON A TIGHT SCHEDULE, AND I CAN'T AFFORD TO BE GENTLE EITHER.

RRRAK!



RATS! I HOPED I COULD JUST GRAZE HER WITH THAT... BUT SHE CAUGHT IT EASILY!



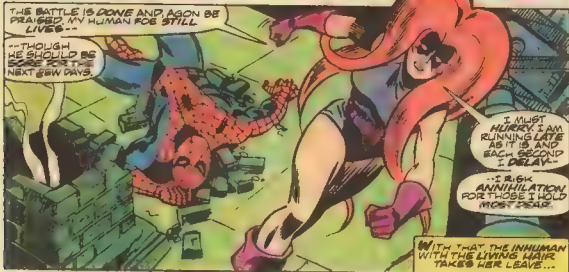
WHAT YOU DO MATTERS NOTHING TO ME, SPIDER-MAN!

WHAT IS IMPORTANT IS THAT YOU FALL--AND QUICKLY!

CRIPES! THAT FREAKY HAIR OF HER'S IS RIPPING THE CHIMNEY APART, THROWING THE BRICKS BACK AT ME--

--LIKE BULLETS OUT OF A MACHINE GUN! TOO MANY TO DODGE--!

UNNNNGH!



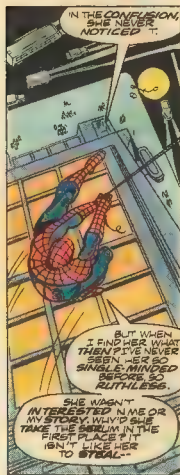
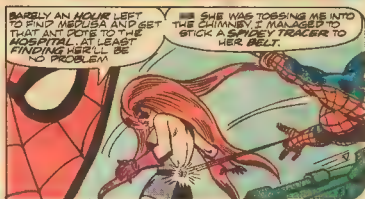
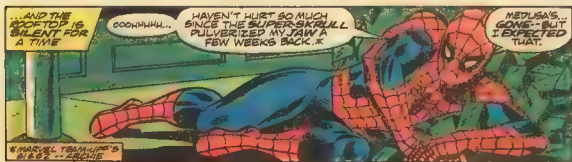
THE BATTLE IS DONE AND, AGON BE PRAISED, MY HUMAN Foe STILL LIVES--

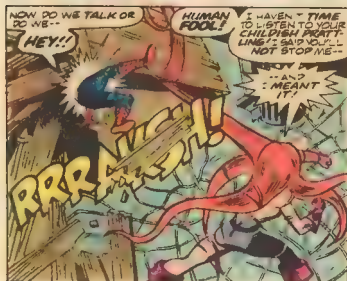
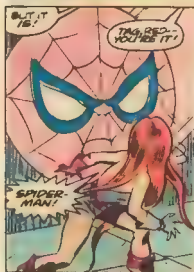
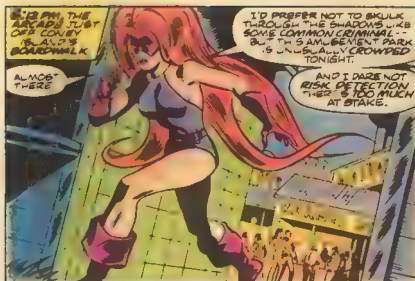
--THOUGH HE SHOULD BE SCORING FOR THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

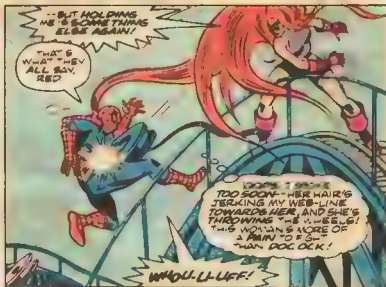
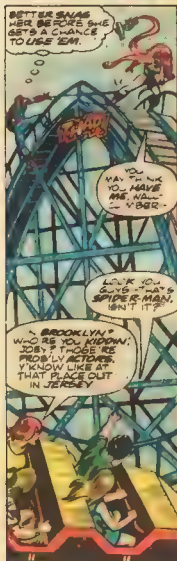
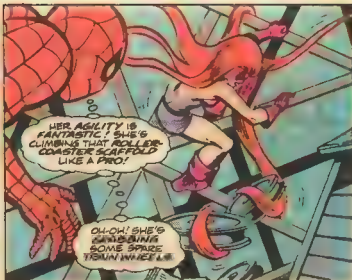
I MUST HURRY. I AM RUNNING LATE AS IT IS AND EACH SECOND I DELAY--

--I RISK ANNIHILATION FOR THOSE I HOLD MOST DEAR.

WITH THAT THE INHUMAN WITH THE LIVING HAIR TAKES HER LEAVE...







SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAIL

96 MARVEL COMICS GROUP, 575 MADISON AVE. NYC. 10022

Dear Archie, Sal, and Jim:

SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #7 was one heck of a good issue, a fact which was immediately apparent from that Cockrum/Milgrom cover. Wow! Dave Cockrum is the best SPIDER-MAN cover artist since Romita! I hope we see a lot more Cockrum covers.

The art inside really amazed me. Mike Esposito, though a good inker, was overstretched on the three Spidey comics, so I was overjoyed when I saw Jim Mooney's name on the credits. I hope he stays on.

SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN is now as enjoyable as Len Wein's interpretation in AMAZING SPIDER-MAN—and this is due to Archie Goodwin's wonderful efforts on the Web slinger. Thanks, Arch.

I hope that the standards of excellence set by this issue are kept up. I'm sure it will be as long as you people keep handling PPTSS.

Raymond Staten
2059 Kremeria Denver, CO 80207

We'll do our best, Ray!

As far as those crafty Cockrum covers go, you're almost certain to be seeing more of them. Ya see, besides turning out a goodly number of covers himself, Dave has also been designing quite a few of our cataclysmic eye-catchers in his part-time position as Jazzy Johnny's assistant.

Dear Arch and Sal,

I was going to tell you how bad your mag is, but then I would only have sent you a blank piece of paper.

I can't even begin to comment on this story; it was all too good. Keep it up!

Oh, and before I forget, I must compliment Stan and Johnny on the SPIDER-MAN newspaper strip. I guess that Lee isn't over the hill yet!

Paul Brodeur
10 Warwick Road Melrose, MA 02176

Dear Archie,

The return of Morbius the Living Vampire is something I've been looking forward to ever since he went into seclusion at the end of MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #15. He even made his reentrance with the dimension-hopping erasing devices he acquired in that episode. Thank you for the continuity, as well as for this outstanding encounter. It was well mixed with a little foreign intrigue, a few two-bit gangsters (names like "Vinnie," even!), and a major involvement with one of Spidey's friends.

As a closing comment, I would like to suggest some female guest-stars. There are so many good, meritorious heroines in

the Marvel Universe, I should like to see some of them here. Like Phoenix, Madame Masque (whatever happened to her, anyway?), the Wasp, Sue Richards, and Tigra, to name a few.

That's about it. Keep those Marvel Masterworks flowing.

Meredith Robbins
230 Veranda Avenue Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

Well, Mer, guest-stars—female or otherwise—are more naturally the provenance of MARVEL TEAM-UP. As a matter of fact, the Wasp just recently appeared there, and the House of Ideas' newest super-star, Ms. Marvel, is appearing there now. But, probably when you least expect it, any number of super-folks could come traipsing through the pages of SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN. Heck, probably when we least expect it!

Dear Peter,

I must say, I am not impressed with the way you are handling your relationship with Mary Jane. If you love her, the least you can do is trust her with your secret.

Telling her your identity as Spider-Man could not possibly endanger her (unless, of course, you're one of the old-fashioned types who believe that a woman can't hold her tongue). If you don't love her—well, that's another story.

Another thing, when the Crom do you expect to start your graduate studies?

Stuart Downs
11 Peabody Terrace #1703 Cambridge, MA 02138

Graduate studies, Stu? They could be coming sooner than you think. (And if that doesn't constitute a hint, then nothing does.)

As for Mary Jane Watson, learning one of the world's better kept secrets, we'll just have to wait and see.

Dear Archie,

The reappearance of Morbius, the coming of the Empathoid, and virtually everything else about SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #7 was overshadowed by one little sentence. What sentence, you ask? Come now, don't be coy! You know the one I mean—right there on page 30, where Spidey turns to the beautiful Ms. Grant and says, "It's all over, Glory."

Just four little words, but those four could well spell the beginnings of one of the subtlest subplots to ever unwind in a Spider-Mag.

What will happen when Gloria Grant calms down? Will she recall that the Web-slinger called her by the pet name that only her friends use? Will Parker later realize his slip-of-the-tongue?

The possibilities are endless and truly mind-boggling. You can bet your last FOOB membership card that I'm gonna be back here in thirty days. I'll be the one with the popcorn in the first row.

Lou Feters
RR #1 Plainfield, IN 46168

Gee, that's great! Save us a seat, Lou. We've gotta go get a couple of sodas and a pack of Big Red for Archie.

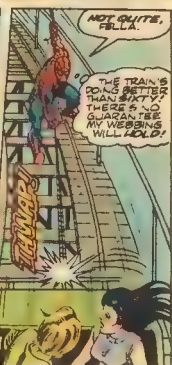
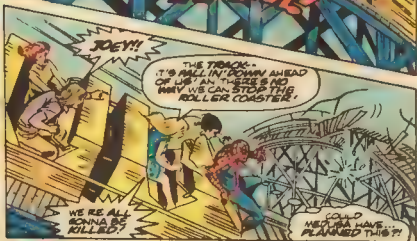
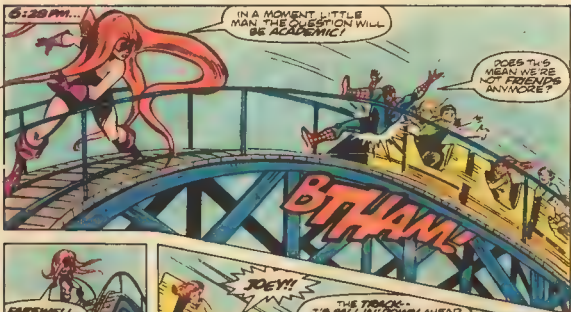
FROM OUT OF THE FIERY PITS COMES

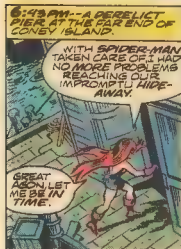
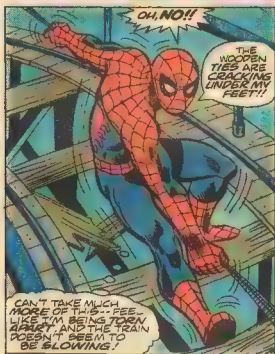
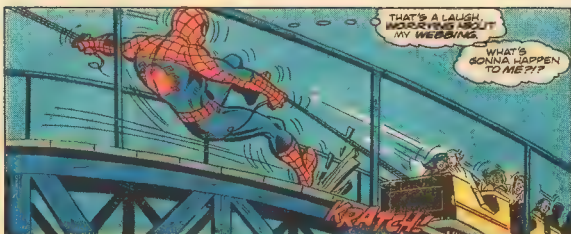
GHOST RIDER

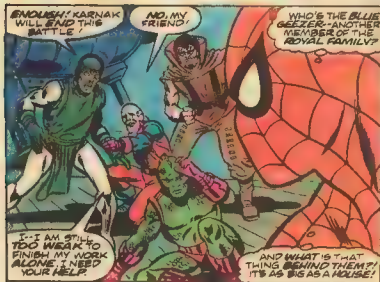
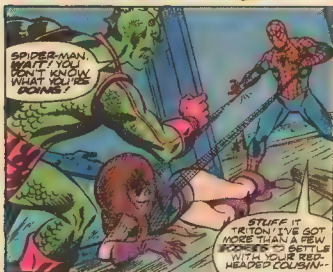
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STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX

This is it, gang! It's the month that the long-awaited KISS Magazine goes on sale! For the ridiculous price of \$1.50 you get a 64-page, glossy paper, magazine-sized masterpiece, featuring a simply incredible 40-page, full-color, super-hero comic strip starring KISS! Yes, KISS—the most unlikely, unusual, unexpected team of super-heroes since Doc Ock tried to elope with Aunt May! Can you picture KISS fighting Doctor Doom? Well, believe it! Also, you'll find phantasmagoric photos and frankly fabulous features—plus, an actual, on the spot, illustrated account of KISS giving their own blood for this once-in-a-lifetime issue! And that's all I'm gonna say about it now, 'cause you know how I hate to be a huckster! And, speaking of Hanna-Barbera (which we weren't!), here's super-sensational announcement #2! For those of you who still turn on to THE FLINTSTONES, SCOOBY-DOO, YOGI BEAR, DYNAMUTT, and all the rest of their merry menage, mighty Marvel will leave you in a cultural wasteland no longer. We've just teamed up with the talented titans at H-B to bring you Scooby and the Flintstones this month, with Yogi and the Dynamutt doggie comin' atcha next month! We figure if your betty Bullpen is gonna take over the comicbook world, we might as well go all the way! Anyhow, we've got some big, secret projects with Hanna-Barbera in the months to come, so you might as well climb aboard now, while there's still room! Wow! From Spidey to Scooby Doo who says Marvel isn't where it's all happening! And now, one last reminder from yours truly (who's beginning to feel like a carnival pitchman!)—better start savin' your shakels, sagacious one, 'cause volume #4 of the omnipresent Origins Series goes on sale this fall, and it'll probably be the biggest blockbuster of 'em all! It's called THE SUPERHERO WOMEN, and—if you play your cards right and don't kick a down-hearted duck—I'll tell you a bit about the contents in the next Soapbox or two. So, until we meet again, be good to each other and wherever you go, what ever you do, fight brain strain—keep thinking Marvel!

Excelsior!

Stan

ITEM! July may be the traditional time for firecrackers, but there's another kind of explosion about to hit full force this month. And if your built-in cornballism detector is starting to blip like crazy, that's because you're right...we are about to mention that Marvel Explosion we're always talking about here and in our ads. But, truth to tell,

explosion is about the only way to describe all the zillion and one things we're sending your way this mid-summer season, over and above the items Stan has already covered in the Soapbox. Just for starters, let us clue you to the fact that the MARVEL SUPERHEROES FUN BOOK #2 should already be on the shelves of your friendly neighborhood book emporium just waiting for you puzzle, maze, and word game fans (and if you're not, these fun books could well change that) to stretch your skills as well as your knowledge of Marvel lore by trying them out.



ITEM! Then there's the big things in our black-and-white magazine department, namely all kinds of excitement over the latest issue of MARVEL PREVIEW. This one will reintroduce you to STAR-LORD, the cosmic crusader who first appeared in the pages of PREVIEW #4. Ever since his dazzling debut, we've been hounded with requests to let Star-Lord soar the spaceways once again. So, editor JOHN WARNER recruited the popular writer/artist team of CLAREMONT and BYRNE (Chris and John to most MARVEL TEAM UP and IRON FIST fans) to do just that. What we expected was the normally sensational job we expect on any of our books; what we got—aided, abetted, and amplified by the dramatically detailed inking of Terrific TERRY AUSTIN—was fifty-two pages of mind-stunning science-fiction adventure that had even the most jaded of Bullpeners lining up to glimpse each new batch of completed pages as they were delivered. Okay, if you praise a thing too much, it creates expectations that can never be lived up to. So, in our typical low-key manner, we'll merely suggest that if you only buy one large-size format comic this year, better make it MARVEL PREVIEW featuring STAR LORD, or you'll be kicking yourself the rest of your life! There. Who says we can't be subtle?

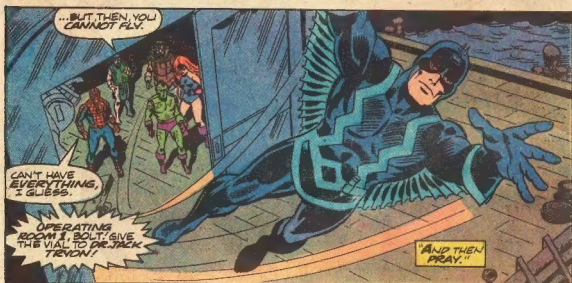
ITEM! Talking about the black and white magazines, let's extend congratulations to ROGER SLIFER on becoming the new editor of the line, replacing JOHN WARNER, who'll be returning to freelance writing (such as the BLOODSTONE feature now backing up THE RAMPAGING HULK). Roger is bright-eyed and eager, and has a whole drawerful of projects he'll soon be bringing your way. In fact, in view of some of the future projects Roger will be in charge of, as well as some of the items he's handling currently—like the full-color MARVEL CLASSICS and special movie projects such as ISLAND OF DR. MOREAU and THE DEEP—black-and-white editor is pretty much a misnomer. At the moment, we don't really have a better or more

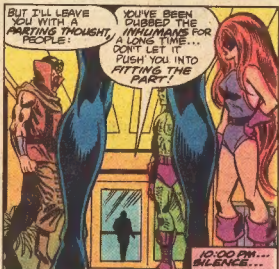
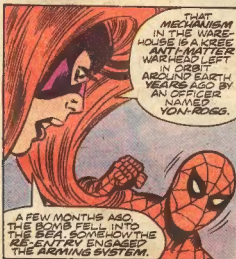
accurate title (Special Format Editor comes close but somehow lacks the subtle *je ne sais* we're always seeking), but as soon as we do, we'll hit you with it. Meantime, get ready to be hit with a lot of way-out wonderment from Mr. Slifer, his assistant editor Reliable RALPH MACCHIO, and the whole blamed black-and-white—er—well—their whole creative crew!

ITEM! If science fiction is in the works this month in our black-and-white try-out mag, MARVEL PREVIEW, our color experimental book, MARVEL PREMIERE, is covering the other side of the coin, namely fantasy. We're presenting WEIRDWORLD, an excursion into the realm of wifards, elves, and mystic monsters conducted by Devil-May-Care DOUG MOENCH, Maniacal MIKE PLOOG, and Active ALEX NINO. If you've thrilled to Tolkien's THE HOBBIT or LORD OF THE RINGS, we've got a hunch this is going to be just what you've been waiting for. In fact, with enough sales and letter encouragement, we just might be able to convince the powers that be that now is the time for a regular epic fantasy comic!



ITEM! Summer is approaching its peak, and so too is our production of King-size Annuals. This time around we've got TARZAN, THOR, THE ETERNALS, and JOHN CARTER, WAR LORD OF MARS making their appearances in all-new, bonus-size adventures, as well as THE INVADERS and AMAZING SPIDER-MAN. If that's not enough, two MARVEL CLASSICS are also ready for your education and enjoyment: H.G. Wells' THE INVISIBLE MAN and Homer's ILLIAD. And coming up in August will be Annuals of THE AVENGERS, THE INCREDIBLE HULK, and THE FANTASTIC FOUR, plus the aforementioned Marvel Movie Special, THE DEEP (but more details about that next month). Meantime, remember—never tickle a temperamental roat!





NEXT **BROTHER POWER AND SISTER SUN!**